

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR STRENGTHENED INTERNATIONAL
BROADCASTING

1. MARCH 24 MADRID PRESS LINKED PRESIDENT CARTER'S
PROPOSAL FOR STRENGTHENING U.S. INTERNATIONAL
BROADCASTING TO HIS "PICKING UP THE GAUNTLET"
(JOSE MARIA CARRASCAL IN ABC) OF IDEOLOGICAL DEBATE
WITH SOVIET UNION.

2. CARRASCAL WROTE FROM NEW YORK FOR ABC (MONARCHIST):
"THERE ARE PEOPLE...WHO WORRY EVERY TIME BREZHNEV
SNEEZES." WITH THESE GRAPHIC AND CUTTING WORDS,
CARTER THRUST ASIDE THE CRITICISMS BY THE SOVIET
LEADER AGAINST HIS OFFENSIVE IN FAVOR OF HUMAN
RIGHTS...THE PRESIDENT LEFT NO DOUBT...THAT, FIRST,
HE IS DISPOSED TO CONTINUE HIS CAMPAIGN, AND SECOND,
THAT HE CONTINUES TO BE CONVINCED THAT THE RUSSIANS...
WILL NEGOTIATE WITH HIM ABOUT DISARMAMENT AND OTHER
TOPICS. AND TO DEMONSTRATE THE CONFIDENCE HE HAS IN
THIS, HE ASKED CONGRESS FOR MORE FUNDS FOR AMPLIFYING
THE CAPACITY OF THE AMERICAN RADIOS TRANSMITTING TO
EASTERN EUROPE. TRULY A MOTE IN THE SOVIET EYE...IT
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WAS BUKOVSKY, ESPECIALLY, WHO SUGGESTED THIS...BY
INFORMING HIM THAT THESE TRANSMITTERS HAVE COME TO BE
THE ONLY CHANNEL THAT THESE PEOPLES HAVE FOR LEARNING
OF EVENTS BEYOND THEIR BORDERS, AND FOR DISSIDENTS TO
LEARN WHAT OTHER GROUPS ARE DOING..."

3. ABC EDITORIAL: "THAT THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL

DISSIDENCE IN THE BOSOM OF THE COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIPS OF EASTERN EUROPE IS AN EXTREMELY GRAVE QUESTION FOR THEM...IS AS CLEAR AS THE LIGHT OF DAY. THAT ONLY ONE DROP OF CRITICISM BORNE BY THE APPARATUS OF 'SOCIALIST CENTRALISM' FINISHES BY DILUTING IT AS IF IT WERE A LUMP OF SUGAR ALSO IS EVIDENT. AND THE OPPOSITION... WITH WHICH THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES DENOUNCE AMERICAN SUPPORT TO THE DISSIDENTS IS IN CONSEQUENCE, LOGICAL. BUT IN REALITY EVERYTHING HAS COME TO PASS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RULES OF THE GAME -- THE GAME OF DETENTE -- THAT WERE DEFINED PRECISELY BY MOSCOW, BY BREZHNEV HIMSELF, AND NOT BY WASHINGTON...IT WAS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CPSU WHO AFFIRMED...THAT DETENTE...DID NOT AND WOULD NOT IMPLY...RENUNCIATION OF THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE BY THE USSR...WHY IS THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE COMPATIBLE WITH DETENTE FOR THE SOVIET UNION, WHILE ON THE OTHER HAND... IT IS NOT PERMITTED FOR THE UNITED STATES?

4. "WERE CARTER TO HAVE ASSUMED THE POLITICAL PRAGMATISM OF HIS PREDECESSORS...THE WEST WOULD HAVE CONTINUED IN DIALECTICAL INFERIORITY WITH THE COMMUNIST WORLD, SUBJECTED TO EROSION BY THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE OF SOCIALISM, WHILE THE SOCIALIST SPHERE REMAINED SHELETERED FROM... THE IMPACT OF LIBERTY... ONE THING APPERS VERY CLEAR: DETENTE CANNOT CONTINUE TO CONFORM TO THE LAW OF TRICKS THAT BREZHNEV WANTS TO IMPOSE AS A NORM OF CONDUCT TO THE BENEFIT OF THE USSR."

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5. REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON FOR EL PAIS (MODERATE LEFT), JUAN YUSTE NOTED THAT "THERE STILL HAS BEEN NO AGREEMENT TO RENEW SPANISH PERMISSION FOR RADIO LIBERTY TO TRANSMIT...WHICH LAPSED ABOUT A YEAR AGO... IN THIS PERIOD, THE NEW SPANISH GOVERNMENT HAS REESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRACTICALLY ALL OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

6. UNDER TITLE "CARTER PROPOSES A 'WORLDWIDE' DEBATE TO BREZHNEV," ANTONIO PARRA WRITES FROM NEW YORK FOR ARRIBA (NATIONAL MOVEMENT) THAT PRESIDENT CARTER "HAS CHALLENGED THE RUSSIANS TO AN OPEN DEBATE, WITH WORLD PUBLIC OPINION AS WITNESS...IN PUTTING THIS TO THE SOVIETS, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS BROUGHT THE GAME TO HIS OWN TURF...PRESIDENT CARTER, CONTRARY TO WHAT ONE MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT BEFOREHAND, HAS NOT BACKED DOWN A MILLIMETER...

7. "THE PRESENCE (OF THE RADIO LIBERTY TRANSMITTERS) ON SPANISH TERRITORY...HAS BEEN A TOPIC OF POLEMICS FOR

SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION, TO THE POINT OF SAYING THAT THE
INSTALATIONS WERE GOING TO BE DISMANTLED,BECAUSE THEY
WERE INJURING THE NEGOTIATING POSITION OF MADRID TOWARD
THE EASTERN COUNTRIES...BUT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
CARTER HAVE COME TO POINT OUT AND JUSTIFY THE EXISTENCE
OF THESE RADIO STATIONS..."EATON

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Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition History: n/a
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